United Nations A/67/6 (Prog. 6)

General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 February 2012

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Item 131 of the preliminary list*
Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 6
Legal affairs

Contents

		Page
Overall orientation		2
Subprogramme 1.	Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole	3
Subprogramme 2.	General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes	4
Subprogramme 3.	Progressive development and codification of international law	6
Subprogramme 4.	Law of the sea and ocean affairs	7
Subprogramme 5.	Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade	9
Subprogramme 6.	Custody, registration and publication of treaties	12
Legislative mandates		13

* A/67/50.

12-21856 (E) 140212

Please recycle

Overall orientation

6.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to support the accomplishment of the objectives of the United Nations by providing advice to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and by promoting among Member States a better understanding of and respect for the principles and norms of international law.

6.2 The mandate for the programme derives from the principal decision-making organs of the United Nations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

6.3 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Office of Legal Affairs. It provides a unified central legal service for the Secretariat and the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations; supports the development of international justice; contributes to the progressive development and codification of international public and trade law and the strengthening and development of the international legal order for the seas and oceans; registers and publishes treaties; and performs the depositary functions of the Secretary-General. The Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs supports the Legal Counsel in the discharge of her responsibilities and assists her in the overall direction and management of the Office of Legal Affairs.

6.4 The Office will provide legal advice and services, on request, to the decision-making organs of the United Nations and its Member States. It will aim to strengthen respect within the United Nations for the rule of law in international relations, in particular, observance of the Charter and the resolutions, decisions, regulations, rules and treaties emanating from the Organization. Particular attention will be given to incorporating a gender perspective into the work of the programme, in particular to the advice provided by the Office and in its activities, as appropriate.

6.5 The Office will carry out its activities in cooperation with other departments and offices of the Secretariat, entities of the United Nations system and entities external to the United Nations, including treaty organizations, intergovernmental, interregional, regional and national organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic communities. Such collaboration and cooperation include the following:

(a) Coordination of interdepartmental activities, liaison with United Nations organs dealing with legal matters, offices away from Headquarters and legal advisers or liaison officers assigned to field missions or other Secretariat units;

(b) Representation at and convening of meetings with legal advisers of the United Nations system and coordination of institutional arrangements for the specialized agencies and related organizations on matters of common concern;

(c) Representation of the Secretary-General and the Legal Counsel at meetings and conferences convened by the United Nations or sponsored by Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other international institutions.

6.6 The Office will face changing demands in a number of areas of its work. It will also aim to carry out its functions in the most efficient and modern way possible through enhanced use of the latest information and communications technology.

Subprogramme 1
Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole

Objective of the Organization: To enhance the respect for the rule of law and to support the development of international justice by the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
Effective functioning of the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations in accordance with international law, including the United Nations legal regime, and supporting international justice mechanisms, as mandated	A high percentage of legal instruments are finalized in respect of the activities of the United Nations

Strategy

6.7 The subprogramme is implemented by the Office of the Legal Counsel. The Office will assist the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations through the qualitative and timely provision of legal advice at their request, the preparation of reports and analyses, and its participation in meetings. This covers questions relating to international peace and security, and includes advice on the interpretation of the Charter, resolutions, rules and regulations of the United Nations, treaties, and questions involving the use of force, sanctions, investigations, commissions of inquiry, expert groups, privileges and immunities, relations with host countries and third-party liability. Legal advice will be provided on questions related to public international law, including legal disputes, human rights, humanitarian law and international criminal law, including formulation of statements of a legal nature for the Secretary-General. Legal advice will also be provided to treaty bodies institutionally linked to the United Nations, at their request. Advice will be provided on constitutional, credentials and membership issues, as well as on the interpretation and application of the rules of procedure of principal and subsidiary organs. The Office will also assist the Secretary-General in complying with his statutory responsibilities with regard to the International Court of Justice. As required, the Office will represent the Secretary-General at meetings and conferences. Through continued ongoing contacts with legal offices throughout the United Nations system, the Office will seek to ensure that legal advice within the system is provided in a coordinated manner. The Office will work closely with the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations to ensure that the advice is clear, accurate and effective, and will engage in necessary follow-up to support the implementation of any resulting policy decisions, if requested.

6.8 Legal advice and services will be provided for the Organization's peacekeeping operations, through the preparation of agreements governing the status and the privileges, immunities, facilities and exemptions of those operations, including status-of-forces and status-of-mission agreements. Assistance and advice will also be provided in the preparation of instruments required for the proper and lawful functioning of those operations, including rules of engagement, standard operating procedures and directives. In the case of operations with legislative and executive mandates, assistance and advice will, in addition, be provided in the preparation of legislative instruments. Assistance for peacemaking efforts will include advice to support negotiations and the preparation of legal instruments.

6.9 The subprogramme will also support the development of international justice and contribute to efforts to eradicate impunity through help to existing international and internationally assisted tribunals. To that end, the Office will work to ensure that, as subsidiary organs of the Security Council, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda or their residual mechanism operate, in their administrative activities, in accordance with the Charter, regulations, rules and policies of the United Nations and, as judicial organs, act within their statutes. Within the framework of the subprogramme, the Office will advise the principal and subsidiary organs of the Organization on legal aspects of the activities of the above-mentioned Tribunals and on matters arising in their relations with those Tribunals. It will also advise the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda or their residual mechanism regarding their relationships with States and host countries. In addition, the Office will provide advice, and ongoing support to the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. The Office will also advise the principal and subsidiary organs regarding the Relationship Agreement between the International Criminal Court and the United Nations. The Office will assist in the establishment of other tribunals, as mandated, and help to develop transitional justice mechanisms, if mandated.

6.10 The Office will continue to carry out secretariat and representational functions for organs and bodies falling within its competence, including the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly, the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and, as appropriate, ad hoc working groups of the Security Council and the Sixth Committee.

6.11 The Secretary-General, as the custodian of the Headquarters Agreement, shall reinforce the implementation of the Agreement, in particular its article IV, section 11 and section 13 (a), governing the host country's legal obligation to grant entry visas to the officials of all Member States attending United Nations meetings.

Subprogramme 2
General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes

Objective of the Organization: To protect the legal interests of the Organization

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Maximization of the protection of the legal interests of the Organization	(a) The abse .ce of instances in which, unless waived, the status and privileges and immunities of the Organization are not maintained
(b) Minimization of the legal liabilities of the Organization	(b) The total amount of the Organization's legal liability is minimized compared with the total amount of resolved claims brought against the Organization

Strategy

6.12 The subprogramme is implemented by the General Legal Division. Legal services and support are provided to assist all parts of the Organization, including offices located away from Headquarters, in the day-to-day administration of their mandates and programmes. These involve: (a) participation in meetings of standing or ad hoc Secretariat and other bodies, such as, for example, the Headquarters Committee on Contracts, the Staff-Management Coordination Committee, the Headquarters Property Survey Board, the Board of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, and the Claims Board; and (b) the provision of advice on the interpretation of certain Articles of the Charter, of General Assembly resolutions and decisions, of the regulations, rules and mandates of programmes and activities in which United Nations organs and bodies are engaged, and of other administrative issuances of the Organization.

6.13 Legal services and support are also provided: (a) for the peacekeeping operations of the Organization regarding commercial and other arrangements with Governments, other United Nations entities, other international organizations, and other actors in the field for air, land and sea transportation, rations, logistical support, personnel and equipment; the resolution of related disputes; the arrangements for and the settlement of insurance claims; and claims against the Organization resulting from such operations; (b) for the Organization's expanded procurement activities and contracting requirements and the resolution of related disputes, controversies and claims by or against the Organization in relation to such activities and requirements, including throughout the completion of the capital master plan, and for the ongoing reform of the Organization's procurement processes; (c) to the Organization's funds and programmes for the establishment of programmes of cooperation for development, as well as for the development of new institutional modalities for operational activities and initiatives to counter epidemics and other hazards; (d) for enhancing the Organization's accountability measures, including, inter alia, through procedural advice and substantive action in relation to both internal sanctions and external enforcement action against United Nations officials and third parties who are responsible for fraud, corruption and other misconduct or crimes; through referrals of internal cases of such conduct to national investigative authorities and the provision of assistance to investigations and prosecutions by means of evidence production; as well as by ensuring that the Organization's legal and restitutionary interests as a victim of any such conduct are protected; (e) for the development of new modalities for cooperating with outside entities, including the business and not-for-profit sectors, in achieving the objectives of the Organization; and (f) for matters related to the development of the human resources management framework; to the minimization of legal liability arising from the implementation of the revised staff regulations and rules and staff selection system; and to the reform and updating of the staff, financial and programme planning regulations and rules, as well as other administrative issuances of the Organization.

6.14 The General Legal Division represents the Secretary-General before the United Nations Appeals Tribunal in cases involving both the Secretariat and the separately administered funds and programmes. The Division also provides advice and legal support to the offices representing the Secretary-General before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal by identifying trends in the judgements of the Dispute Tribunal, by coordinating legal strategies for such representation, and by

formulating consistent legal arguments. In addition, the Division represents the United Nations before other judicial and arbitral bodies in order to meet the Organization's obligations under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations to provide an appropriate mode of settlement for claims arising out of contracts or of a private law character. In coordination with the Office of the Legal Counsel, which administers subprogramme 1, the General Legal Division liaises with the appropriate authorities of the host Government and other host countries to ensure that the international intergovernmental status of the Organization and its related privileges and immunities of the Organization are maintained.

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Objective of the Organization: Progressive development and codification of international law

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Progress in the formulation of legal instruments	(a) Percentage of legal instruments under preparation that advanced to a higher level of progress
(b) Wider appreciation and understanding of international law	(b) (i) High level of satisfaction rating from the participants responding to the survey on international law training activities
	(ii) Increasing number of end-users of legal publications, documents and information disseminated

Strategy

6.15 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of the subprogramme is vested in the Codification Division. The types of activities to be undertaken will include research on topics of international law, preparation of background documents, analytical studies and draft reports of a substantive nature for the bodies concerned, legal advice and assistance in the conduct of proceedings and in the drafting of legal instruments, resolutions and decisions.

6.16 Substantive support will be provided to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly and its working groups in its consideration of relevant instruments or, as the case may be, use by States of the procedures envisaged by the relevant resolutions of the Assembly. Substantive support will also be provided to special and ad hoc committees, as well as to the International Law Commission and its Special Rapporteurs.

6.17 The United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law will be implemented through (a) the preparation of major legal publications, including the desktop and electronic publishing of some of them, such as the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*; the *United Nations Legislative Series*; the *Reports of International*

Arbitral Awards; the *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice*; the *Work of the International Law Commission*, proceedings of codification conferences; and ad hoc publications on public international law, as well as the coordination of the preparation of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*; and the provision of advice for the preparation of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*; (b) the designing of curricula, selecting the lecturers and participants, planning, organizing and conducting training courses on a broad range of subjects of international law, including the International Law Fellowship Programme, the Regional Courses in International Law as well as other seminars and lectures, providing assistance in the form of fellowships, preparation of training materials for such courses and seminars, and enhanced distribution of and access to United Nations legal publications in hard copy and electronic formats, in particular, to developing countries; (c) the maintenance and continuous updating of an increasing number of websites of the Sixth Committee and the International Law Commission, and of the codification of international law, in conformity with existing mandates; and (d) the continuation and further development of the Audiovisual Library of International Law as a global online training and dissemination resource, primarily for government officials and lawyers in developing countries, via the Internet, including through the organization, recording and editing of lectures and the dissemination of teaching materials, and the preservation and presentation of historic archival material, and Audiovisual Library presentations at international law meetings with the aim of increasing the number of Audiovisual Library users around the world.

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Objective of the Organization: To promote and strengthen the rule of law for the oceans

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased participation of States in and effective implementation and application of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the related implementing agreements	(a) (i) Increased number of States participating in the Convention and the related implementing agreements (ii) Increased number of actions by States in the implementation and application of the Convention and the related implementing agreements
(b) Enhanced cooperation and coordination among stakeholders with a view to deriving benefits from the use of oceans and seas	(b) (i) Increased number of submissions processed by the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and resulting delineation of the outer limit of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles

	(ii) Increased number of activities at the international level aimed at improving the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, the equitable and efficient utilization of their resources, the management and conservation of their living resources and the study, protection and preservation of the marine environment
	(iii) Increased cooperation relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources and their particular biodiversity, in areas beyond national jurisdiction
(c) Facilitation of decision-making by the General Assembly as well as other bodies under the Convention	(c) Increased percentage of Member States and other bodies who respond to the survey or otherwise indicate their satisfaction with the services provided

Strategy

6.18 The subprogramme is implemented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

6.19 The Division will continue to perform the functions of the Secretary-General under the Convention and the related agreements, as well as relevant General Assembly resolutions. The Division will provide information, analysis and advice on the Convention and the related agreements, their status and State practice relating thereto. Assistance will be provided to States and international organizations (including regional organizations) in the development of legal and policy instruments in the field of the law of the sea and ocean affairs, in conformity with the provisions of the Convention and the related implementing agreements.

6.20 Member States will be assisted in identifying emerging issues of ocean affairs to be addressed within the framework of the Convention and the related agreements. This assistance will entail analysing areas requiring action, organizing groups of experts for the purpose of formulating appropriate responses to emerging needs and servicing multilateral consultations and negotiations, so as to contribute to the effective implementation as well as progressive development of the law of the sea.

6.21 Developing States will continue to be assisted in developing and strengthening their capabilities, in particular the human and technical resources required for the effective exercise of their rights and the fulfilment of their obligations under the Convention and related agreements. The Division will provide such assistance, inter alia, through workshops, publications and training materials, as well as through fellowship programmes and other capacity-building activities. The Division will also continue to provide enhanced services and assistance to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in its consideration of submissions by coastal States, and to advise States, in particular developing States, on the various aspects of the preparation of those submissions. The Division will continue to administer various

trust funds established to assist developing States for the purpose of implementing the Convention and related agreements.

6.22 The Division will continue to facilitate the annual consideration, review and evaluation of developments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs and, inter alia, will continue to provide substantive, administrative and technical support and services to: (a) the General Assembly through the provision of information, analysis and reports; (b) the informal consultations to elaborate the General Assembly resolutions on oceans and the law of the sea and on sustainable fisheries; (c) the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea; (d) the ad hoc open-ended informal working group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction; (e) Meetings of States Parties to the Convention; (f) the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf; (g) the Informal Consultations of States Parties to the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement; and (h) the Ad hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects.

6.23 The Division will also continue to cooperate with the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the International Seabed Authority and provide services and assistance required for their effective functioning. Moreover, on request, it will assist States in the settlement of disputes through other mechanisms set out in the Convention.

6.24 The Division will continue to foster inter-agency cooperation and coordination and to participate in relevant meetings of United Nations and non-United Nations bodies dealing with oceans-related issues and the mechanisms of cooperation and coordination relating to oceans, in particular UN-Oceans.

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade

Objective of the Organization: Progressive improvement, harmonization, understanding, knowledge, interpretation and application of international trade law and coordination of the work of international organizations active in that field

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective progress towards the modernization of trade law and practices and reduction of legal uncertainties and obstacles posed by inadequate and disparate laws or conflicting interpretation and application of laws	(a) (i) Increased number of legislative decisions (ratifications and national enactments) based on texts of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) (ii) Increased number of judicial and arbitral decisions based on UNCITRAL texts

(b) Increased awareness and understanding of international trade law issues and reliance on UNCITRAL standards	(b) (i) Increased number of publications or databases referring to the work and mentioning texts of UNCITRAL (ii) Increased number of visitors to the UNCITRAL website
(c) Improved coordination and cooperation among international organizations active in the field of international trade law	(c) Increased number of joint activities that incorporate reference to UNCITRAL trade law standards
(d) Improved functioning of UNCITRAL	(d) Increased percentage of Member States and UNCITRAL observers responding to the survey indicating their satisfaction with the services provided

Strategy

6.25 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the International Trade Law Division.

6.26 The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, codification conferences and related intergovernmental working groups will be provided with substantive support. The services provided to UNCITRAL in the conduct of its law making activity will include research on international trade law, the preparation of studies and policy papers, legal advice and assistance in the conduct of intergovernmental negotiations and in the drafting of decisions, amendments and proposals. The International Trade Law Division will assist the Commission in drafting for Governments modern and universally acceptable legislative and non-legislative texts (treaties, model laws, legislative guides and recommendations) in areas where the Commission determines that the modernization or harmonization of commercial law is desirable and feasible. To that effect, a specialized library will be maintained.

6.27 While legislative activity is the most important activity in being the basis for other work, it alone cannot achieve the goal of harmonization, namely, that UNCITRAL standards are implemented and used in practice. The UNCITRAL secretariat remains as it was in the 1970s, when no or very few UNCITRAL standards existed. In contrast, some 30 UNCITRAL legal standards are currently in need of promotion. The consequence is that non-legislative activities are underserved in terms of recognition, time and resources and are ultimately impacted, and the implementation of UNCITRAL texts still needs to be improved. The strategy in the biennium will be to increase the involvement of the Commission, the working groups and the secretariat beyond legislative drafting and into the areas of technical assistance and cooperation/coordination as a holistic approach involving the full life cycle of an UNCITRAL text. A practical consequence will be that working group and Commission sessions should consider both legislative development and technical assistance activities (both involving coordination and cooperation).

6.28 With the approach described above in mind, and in view of the growing need for commercial law reform in the various areas in which the Commission has prepared harmonized standards and the related increased demand for technical assistance for legislative work (in particular in developing countries and countries in

transition), the Division will pay considerable attention to developing and carrying out programmes for a more active promotion of UNCITRAL texts, as well as technical assistance for legislative work and training. Such assistance will be based on requests from regional organizations and individual countries, and will be provided in the form of briefings to officials, training and direct assistance in the drafting of instruments enacting uniform law texts, supported by commentaries, guides to enactment and information notes prepared by the Division. Professional associations and academic institutions, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, will be assisted in promoting modern business practices and the teaching of international trade law. Carrying out the relevant activities in an effective and sustainable manner is expected to require their integration into strengthened and coordinated rule of law activities of the United Nations, adequate resources and increased partnerships with State and non-governmental organizations, including the private sector. The Division will therefore prioritize activities, and plan to garner external resources or partners — including UNCITRAL members and observers — to service the activities that cannot be serviced internally. Priorities will be set in terms of topics rather than working groups (bearing in mind the need to promote also standards that are not linked with a currently active working group). Outreach to Member States through UNCITRAL regional or country offices will be further explored.

6.29 Cooperation will be undertaken with regional organizations to foster regional harmonization on the basis of universal texts of the Commission. The Division will provide models for use by intergovernmental organizations when they prepare legislative texts or assist their member States in modernizing trade legislation. Furthermore, the Division will draft models for use by international and national organizations when they prepare standard texts for use by their members. Attention will generally be given to issues arising from the increasing importance of electronic commerce in international trade. The UNCITRAL website will be maintained in all six official languages of the United Nations and its content will be expanded.

6.30 Bearing in mind the fact that an increasing number of regional economic integration organizations and those for particular industrial sectors are formulating rules and standards for international trade, the Division will be required to monitor and analyse their work so as to assist the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to carry out its mandate to coordinate legal activities in the area of international trade, in particular to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law.

6.31 Users of legal texts originating from the Commission will be provided with information on the judicial and arbitral application and interpretation of those texts. Such information will be made available in all the official languages of the United Nations in the form of abstracts of court decisions and arbitral awards. In addition, the Division will facilitate the use of uniform law by preparing and continuously updating digests of case law interpreting UNCITRAL texts, such as the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods and the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration. The Division will also disseminate information on the implementation of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards and promote its uniform interpretation. The Division will pay particular attention to the growing need for uniform interpretation of international legal standards, which results from the use of

such standards in a continuously increasing number of jurisdictions. The Division will explore means of responding to that demand through a realistic effort in support of harmonization of international trade law, not only in its enactment but also in its everyday use by courts and tribunals. Such a response is expected to require a robust reporting mechanism supported by the necessary resources.

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Objective of the Organization: Wider awareness of and participation in international treaties concluded under the auspices of the United Nations and treaties deposited with the Secretary-General as well as the registration of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter, and actions relating to those treaties

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved access to international treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and related treaty actions, including information on their status, and to treaties and related actions submitted for registration and publication with the Secretariat	(a) (i) Treaty actions relating to treaties to be deposited with the Secretary-General are processed in a timely manner (ii) A treaty and action is registered in a timely manner (iii) Number of page views on the Treaty Section website
(b) Ongoing State participation in the international treaty framework	(b) Continuous receipt of treaties and actions for deposit with the Secretary-General and for registration
(c) Enhanced familiarity with and understanding by Member States of the technical and legal aspects of participating in the multilateral treaty framework and registering treaties with the Secretariat	(c) (i) Continuous requests for depositary and registration-related information and advice from States, United Nations offices, specialized agencies and treaty bodies (ii) Increased percentage of participants who indicate their satisfaction with the training on treaty law and practice in a survey or otherwise

Strategy

6.32 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of the subprogramme is vested in the Treaty Section. The Section will undertake the depositary functions of the Secretary-General for over 550 multilateral treaties, and the registration and publication functions relating to approximately 2,000 treaties and treaty actions per year pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations; provide timely and accurate information relating to the treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and treaties and related actions registered with the Secretariat; provide assistance and advice to Member States, specialized agencies, United Nations offices, treaty bodies and other entities on various aspects of treaty law, including final clauses of

treaties, the depositary practice of the Secretary-General, and the registration of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter; and prepare and revise related publications.

6.33 The Treaty Section will continue to refine its computerization programme to respond most effectively to the needs of Member States, in particular with respect to: (a) the comprehensive electronic database containing up-to-date depositary and registration information; (b) electronic dissemination of treaty and treaty law-related information from the database, including through online access; and (c) enhancement of the electronic database/workflow system; and will continue to update, enhance and develop the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Internet.

6.34 The Section will continue to promote wider participation in the multilateral treaty framework through regular treaty events and provide assistance to States with the technical and legal aspects of participation in treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and the registration of treaties pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter, including through capacity-development training seminars.

Legislative mandates

Overall orientation

General Assembly resolutions

66/246 Questions related to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013

Subprogramme 1
Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole

Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 104 of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

13 (I) Organization of the Secretariat [Establishment of a Legal Department]

22 (I) Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations

2819 (XXVI) Security of missions accredited to the United Nations and safety of their personnel and establishment of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Subprogramme 2
General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes

Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 104 of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

13 (I)	Organization of the Secretariat [Establishment of a Legal Department]
22 (I)	Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations
61/261	Administration of justice at the United Nations
62/228	Administration of justice at the United Nations
63/253	Administration of justice at the United Nations

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 13 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions and decisions

174 (II)	Establishment of an International Law Commission
487 (V)	Ways and means for making the evidence of customary international law more readily available
987 (X)	Publication of the documents of the International Law Commission
3006 (XXVII)	United Nations Juridical Yearbook
65/19	Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts
65/27	Diplomatic protection
65/28	Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm
65/29	Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts
65/30	Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives
66/92	Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States
66/93	Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission
66/97	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law
66/98, 99, 100	Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-third session
66/101	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
66/102	The rule of law at the national and international levels
66/103	The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

66/104 The law of transboundary aquifers

66/105 Measures to eliminate international terrorism

66/106, 107 Administration of justice at the United Nations

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Articles 16 (2), 47 (9), 63 (2), 64, 75 (2), 76 (9), 84 (2), 116-119, 287 (8), 298 (6), 312, 313 (1), 319 (1) and 319 (2); articles 2 (2), 2 (5) and 6 (3) of annex II; articles 2 and 3 (e) of annex V; article 4 (4) of annex VI; article 2 (1) of annex VII; and article 3 (e) of annex VIII

United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement

Articles 26 (1) and 36

General Assembly resolutions adopted annually on the law of the sea and sustainable fisheries, the latest as follows:

66/231 Oceans and the law of the sea

66/68 Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade

General Assembly resolutions

2205 (XXI) Establishment of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

General Assembly resolutions adopted annually on the work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, the latest as follows:

66/94 Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-fourth session

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

23 (I)	Registration of treaties and international agreements
24 (I)	Transfer of certain functions, activities and assets of the League of Nations
97 (I)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements: regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations
364 (IV)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements
482 (V)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements
33/141	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations
51/158	Electronic treaty database
66/62	Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects
66/64	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
66/97	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law
66/102	The rule of law at the national and international levels